Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 01260 060314Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-12 SOE-02 AF-10 ARA-10
CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-10 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
NASA-01 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01
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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0488
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 01260

GENEVA FOR CCD DEL

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, US, UNGA, IO, FR
SUBJECT: UNSSOD PREPCOM V; US-FRENCH DISCUSSION OF
DISARMAMENT MACHINERY

1. SUMMARY: US (AMBASSADORS FISHER AND LEONARD, SSOD COORDINATOR WEILER AND ACDA COUNSELOR YARMOLINKSY) AND FRANCE (AMBASSADOR LEPRETTE, MISTRAL FROM MFA, LENNUYEUX-COMNENE AND D'AMECOURT OF FRENCH MISSION) MET APRIL 5 FOR INFORMAL DISCUSSION OF FEATURES OF DISARMAMENT NEGOTIATING BODY. FRENCH NOTED THAT THEIR THINKING ON THIS SUBJECT IS STILL TENTATIVE. IT WAS AGREED THAT US AND FRANCE WILL MEET AGAIN LATER DURING CURRENT PREPCOM, AFTER ARRIVAL IN NEW YORK OF FRENCH DISARMAMENT COORDINATOR TAITTINGER. HIGHLIGHTS OF DISCUSSION FOLLOW. END SUMMARY

2. FRENCH PARTICIPATION: LEONARD NOTED THAT AT A RECENT
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PAGE 02 USUN N 01260 060314Z

STANLEY FOUNDATION CONFERENCE, SOVIETS HAD ASKED WHETHER FRENCH WOULD JOIN A NEW DISARMAMENT NEGOTIATING BODY IF IT WERE DESIGNED TO MEET THEIR PREFERENCES. SOVIET IMPLICATION WAS THAT IN ABSENCE OF FRENCH COMMITMENT TO DO SO, THERE IS NO POINT IN MODIFYING THE BODY TO MEET FRENCH PREFERENCES. LEPRETTE REPLIED THAT FRANCE WOULD NOT JOIN CCD, BUT MIGHT BE ABLE TO JOIN A NEW BODY.

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

3. FRANCO-SOVIET CONSULTATIONS: MISTRAL NOTED THAT DURING RECENT FRANCO-SOVIET TALKS, SOVIETS HAD SAID THEY ARE FLEXIBLE ON CCD CO-CHAIRMANSHIP AND EVEN ON CCD MEMBERSHIP. HOWEVER, SOVIETS OPPOSE "COMPLETE REORGANIZATION" OF CCD. MISTRAL SAID FRENCH HAD TOLD SOVIETS THAT CO-CHAIRMANSHII MIGHT BE REPLACED BY A ROTATING CHAIRMANSHIP, AND THAT CURRENT COMPOSITION OF CCD WAS NOT BALANCED. LEONARD NOTED THAT A SIGNI-FICANT PROBLEM WAS SOSED BY FACT SOVIETS HAD ALWAYS INSISTED ON EQUAL REPRESENTATION OF EAST AND WEST IN THE NEGOTIATING BODY.

4. MEMBERSHIP: LEPRETTE STATED THAT AS CURRENTLY COMPOSED THE CCD IS NOT ADEQUATELY REPRESENTATIVE OF WORLD COMMUNITY. THUS, FRANCE THINKS A NEW DIS-ARMAMENT NEGOTIATING BODY SHOULD INCLUDE THOSE CCD MEM-BERS WITH A GENUINE INTEREST IN DISARMAMENT, AS WELL AS NON-CCD MEMBERS WHO CAN MAKE A CONTRIBUTION. HOWEVER, IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN EFFICIENCY FRANCE DID NOT WISH TO ENLARGE MEMBERSHIP EXCESSIVELY. FISHER POINTED OUT THAT AS PRESENTLY CONSTITUTED CCD MEMBERSHIP OF 30 INCLUDED 15 NON-ALIGNED, WHO WERE BRAODLY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE VARIOUS GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS; HE INQUIRED PRECISELY WHAT COUNTRIES FRANCE MIGHT WISH TO SEE ADDED TO THE MEMBERSHIP OF A NEW BODY. LEPRETTE DID NOT REPLY
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DIRECTLY TO THIS QUERY, BUT NOTED THAT ONE POSSIBILITY WOULD BE TO INCLUDE ALL SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBERS IN A NEW BODY. SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBERS NOW ON THE CCD COULD HAVE PERMANENT SEATS ON THE NEW BODY, WHILE THE REMAINDER OF SC MEMBERS COULD DOTATE ON TO THAT BODY WHILE THEY WERE ON SECURITY COUNCIL. LEPRETTE SAID THIS ARRANGE-MENT WOULD IMPLY AN UPGRADING OF THE SC'S ROLE IN DIS-ARMAMENT. YARMOLINSKY ASKED WHETHER AN ENLARGEMENT OF THE NEGOTIATING BODY TO INCLUDE ALL SC MEMBERS WOULD FULLY MEET THE FRENCH CONCERNS ON MEMBERSHIP. LEPRETTE SAID HE COULD NOT NOW GIVE A DEFINITIVE ANSWER.

5. CHAIRMANSHIP: FISHER NOTED THAT US WAS FLEX-IBLE ON INSTITUTION OF CCD CO-CHAIRMANSHIP. LEONARD SAID ONE POSSIBILITY WOULD BE TO REPLACE CO-CHAIRMANSHIP WITH A PERMANENT CHAIRMAN, WHO WOULD BE AN INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVANT WHOSE APPOINTMENT WOULD BE WORKED OUT AMONG KEY STATES MUCH AS THE UNSYG'S APPOINTMENT IS NEGOTIATED. WEILER SAID THAT THE UNSYG'S REPRESENTATIVE TO THE NE-GOTIATING BODY COULD BE SELECTED FOR THIS TASK, WHICH WOULD ENHANCE THE LINK BETWEEN THE UN AND THAT BODY.

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

6. LINK TO UN: NOTING THAT MAINTENANCE OF THE CONSENSUS PROCEDURE WAS DESIRABLE, LEPRETTE SAID FRANCE WOULD HOWEVER LIKE TO SEE A MORE DIRECT UN LINK TO THE NEGOTIATING BODY. MISTRAL SAID ONE WAY TO EFFECT THIS WOULD BE TO HAVE FIRST COMMITTEE GIVE GUIDANCE TO THE NEGOTIATING BODY. FISHER COMMENTED THAT SUCH A PRACTICE IMPLIED THE ELIMINATION OF CONSENSUS PROCEDURES IN THE NEGOTIATING BODY, SINCE THE FIRST COMMITTEE WAS GOVERNED BY VOTING. LEONARD POINTED OUT THAT MEXICAN AMBASSADOR GARCIA ROBLES' PROPOSALS TO STRENGTHEN THE UN-CCD LINK -- SUCH AS BY ALLOWING ANY UN MEMBER TO PRESENT PROPOSALS TO THE CCD AND BY ENHANCING THE ROLE OF THE SYG'S REP TO THE CCD -- POSED NO PROBLEM TO THE US. LEONARD

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Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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20 Mar 2014
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